

CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of human authentication in a system comprising a computer and a mouse, said method comprising a: detecting mouse micromotion data of a user by gathering a plurality of samples per mouse click micromotion, wherein the mouse micromotion comprises any movement, track, or trace of the mouse as the user manipulates the mouse to move a corresponding cursor from one point to another point; b: obtaining at least one metric ~~of mouse movement information~~ characterizing the user from the mouse micromotion data; c: comparing the metric against a database; and d: authenticating the user.
2. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein the method provides information regarding the user's class identity.
3. (Previously Presented) A method according claim 1 wherein the step of detecting the mouse micromotion data of the user is executed without the user's awareness.
4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the database comprises an aggregated representation of previously detected mouse micromotion data.
5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the step of obtaining the at least one metric ~~of mouse movement information~~ comprises obtaining a plurality of metrics from the mouse micromotion data and a comparison with the database, of mouse movement information and wherein the comparison between the plurality of metrics ~~of mouse movement information~~ and the database uses at least one eigenvector derived from the plurality of metrics ~~of mouse movement information~~.
6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the mouse micromotion data of the user are in response to a display on the computer's screen.

7. (Currently Amended) An information processing system for identifying its users, the system comprising: an arrangement of sensors for detecting user mouse micromotion data by gathering a plurality of samples per mouse ~~click~~ micromotion, wherein the mouse micromotion comprises any movement, track or trace of a mouse as the users manipulate the mouse to move a corresponding cursor from one point to another point; a memory unit for storing the detected user mouse micromotion data; a computational element for obtaining at least one metric ~~from the user mouse~~ from the mouse micromotion data and manipulating the metric; and a database.

8. (Original) A system according to claim 7 wherein a target pattern is used to elicit information known only to an authorized user.

9. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 8 wherein a target pattern that changes from a session to session is used to elicit the user mouse micromotion data.

10. (Original) A system according to claim 7 wherein said information processing system is distributed over a plurality of networked devices.

11. (Original) A system according to claim 7 is used for online commercial transactions.

12. (Original) A system according to claim 7 is used for online voting.

13. (Original) A system according to claim 7 is used for network access.

14. (Original) A system according to claim 7 is used to authorize the release of sensitive personal records.

15. (Original) A system according to claim 7 wherein said information processing system is a single computer.